

## **REMARKS**

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-identified application prior to examination.

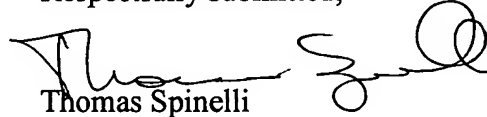
By means of the present Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended in accordance with accepted U.S. practice. Specifically, the claims have been amended to comply with U.S. practice in not having a multiple dependent claim depend from another multiple dependent claim. No new matter has been entered into the disclosure by way of such amendment.

Furthermore, by way of the present preliminary amendment, new claims 27-40 have been added to further define the patentable invention. New claims 27-40 are fully supported in the original disclosure. Thus, no new matter has been entered into the disclosure by way to the addition of new claims 27-40.

Lastly, in an effort to clarify the description, the Applicants have amended the application in Example 6 to identify the probes arranged at each spot. The Applicants have also amended the Sequence Listing at SEQ ID NOs: 10, 12, 13, 15-25 and 56-83 to clarify that the sequence provided therein are primers or probes and therefore properly designated as "Artificial Sequence" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.821 et seq. Support for this amendment is found in the Examples. No new matter has been added.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", with a large, stylized circular flourish at the end.

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